

# Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team Workshop

# **Understanding Base Reuse**

Community-Based Planning and Redevelopment

Cyrena Eitler
Office of Economic Adjustment



#### **Base Closures**

- 97 major base closures and 55 major realignments as result of BRAC 88, 91, 93, 95
- 77 major bases closed or realigned as of October 1997
- 94,269 civilian jobs lost\*
- 44,763 new jobs as of October 1997\*
- Clean up and disposal of over 467,000 acres of Federal property
  - > 365,000 acres ready for transfer from DoD

## **Local Economic Disruption**

- Defense downsizing has adverse community economic impacts
- Economic adjustment focus
  - Diversification of local economic base
  - Local business community
  - DoD and defense contractor workforce

<sup>\*</sup> Job loss and job creation data for the 74 communities in which OEA is providing financial assistance.



# Office of Economic Adjustment

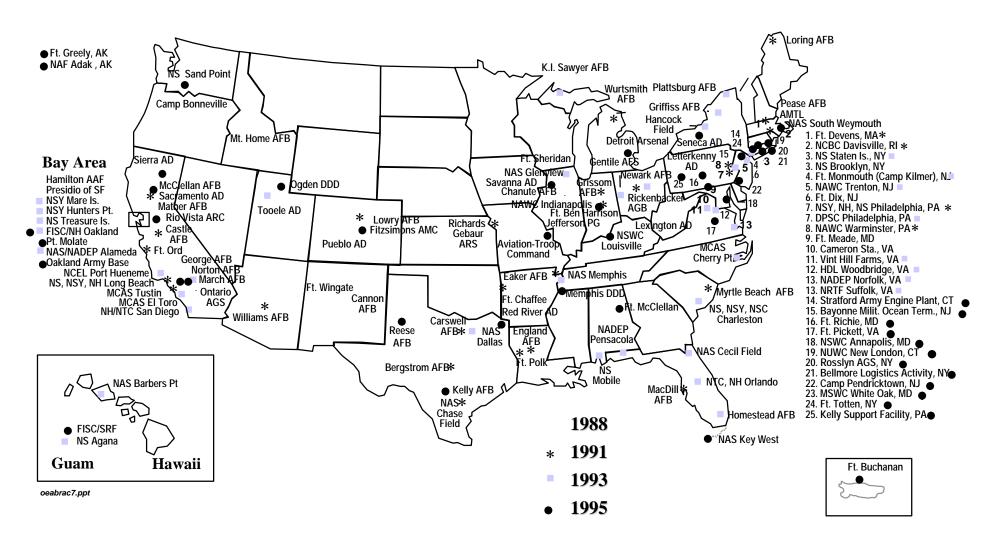
- Created in 1961
- Assisted > 500 defense impacted communities

# **Broad Economic Adjustment Portfolio**

- Closing and realigning installations
- Expanding installations
- Reductions in defense industry employment
- Encroachment of urban development upon installations



# OEA Base Closure & Realignment Projects





# **Program Objectives**

- Create new jobs
- Redevelop former military bases for civilian use
- Ease community transition/minimize period of economic adjustment
- Stabilize and diversify local economic base
- Increase local tax base



# **Sources for Assistance**

- Technical and financial assistance
- Close coordination with Military Department and Federal domestic agencies (i.e., DoL, DoC, SBA, EPA, FAA, Dol, HHS, HUD, Justice, DoEd)
- Promote support from state and local government
- Private sector participation



# **Economic Adjustment Process**

# **Complex, Community-Based**

- Community organization, planning and implementation
- DoD closure, cleanup, and property disposal

### **Job Creation Focus**

- Primary goal is civilian job replacement
- Property disposal influenced by potential for job creation and public uses

## **Private Sector Driven**

- Promote business development opportunities
- Reinvest in community infrastructure
- Generate personal income, enhance local tax revenues
- Diversify local economic base, products, and services



# Phased Economic Adjustment Process

- Organize
- Plan
- Implement

# Community Organization – Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA)

Recognized by the Office of Economic Adjustment on behalf of Secretary of Defense.

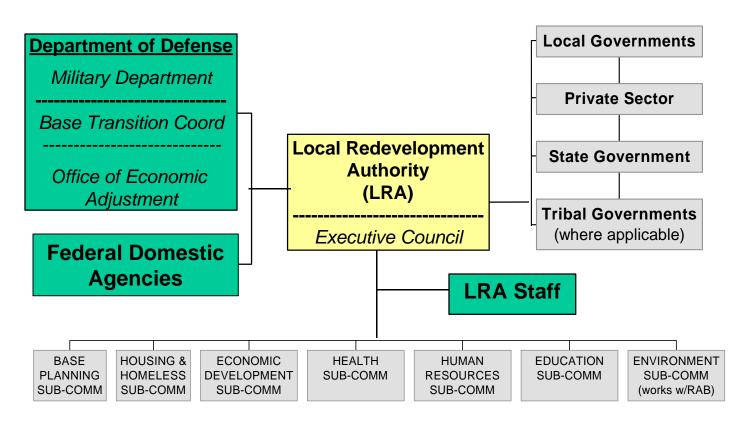
# **Purpose**

- Single point of contact representing the community
- Vehicle for multi-jurisdictional involvement
- Promote public/private sector leadership
- Broad-based (geographic/demographic) representation
- Manageable numbers
- May change over time
  - > Planning LRA
  - > Implementation LRA



#### **SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE**

#### **POTENTIAL MEMBERS**



Note: This is a conceptual organization. The specific composition of the LRA will be determined by the local situation.

# **Community Organization – LRA** (Cont.)

## Responsibilities

- Serve as community forum for issues, concerns and policy guidance
- May develop the community's economic adjustment strategy
- Solicit needs from homeless, state and local interests
- Establish dialogue with BCT to facilitate decision-making
  - proposed future land use designations
  - proposed remediation plan and schedule

- Prepare the redevelopment plan
- Submit the completed plan to DoD and HUD
- May be entity to adopt the redevelopment plan by ordinance or resolution
- Eligible to receive real and personal property via Economic Development Conveyance



Develop a comprehensive local economic adjustment strategy.

- **■** Economic diversification
- Base reuse plan



# **Economic Diversification Strategy**

- Assess strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT)
- Determine regional economic competitive advantage
- Identify workforce skills needed to expand/attract business
- Integrate dislocated defense workers



# Base Reuse Plan – Community Based

- Identify community issues
- Set goals
- Collect and analyze data
- Establish objectives and policies
- Consider redevelopment alternatives
- Community selects preferred plan



# "Use-Based" Strategy

# **Community Reuse Vision Focuses On:**

- Promoting new economic activity
- Jobs
- Tax revenue

# Reuse is Defined by What is:

- Market supportable
- Physically sociable
- **■** Financially viable
- Environmentally compatible
- **Politically feasible**



# Base Reuse Is an Economic Development Project

# Reuse plan must address real estate, cost and market issues.

#### **Real Estate Issues:**

- Location
  - Urban vs. Suburban
  - access
  - adjacent existing and proposed land uses
- Site characteristics
  - > zoning
  - > site dimensions
  - utilities and infrastructure (on and off site)
  - > environmental conditions
- Building characteristics

#### **Cost Issues:**

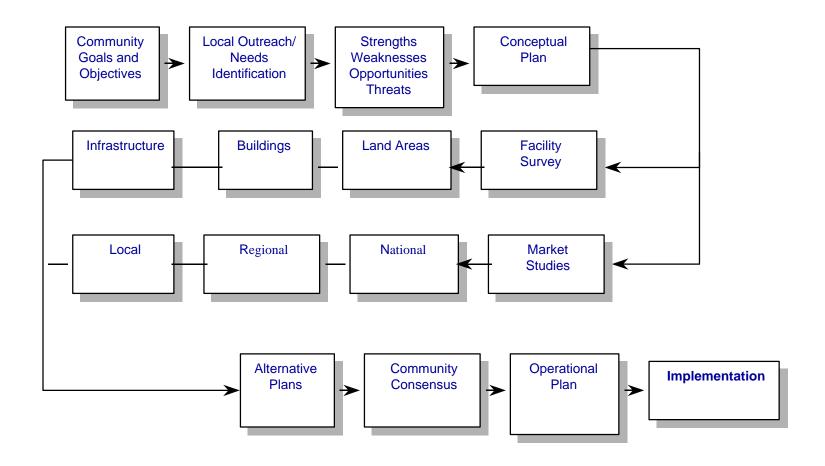
- Development costs dictate minimum rent levels required to ensure cost recovery
- Rent levels must remain competitive
- Major development costs include upgrade/replacement of infrastructure and building code compliance

#### Market Issues:

 Vacancy rates & absorption rates for existing space will strongly influence proposed reuse



# Planning Sequence





# **Examples of Property Conveyance Mechanisms**

- **■Public bid sale**
- ■Negotiated sale
- Public benefit conveyance
- **■**Economic development conveyance



# **Examples of Property Conveyance Mechanisms (Cont.)**

### **Public Airport**

- Air cargo facility
- Commercial passenger terminal

#### **Education**

- Primary and secondary schools
- Community college
- State university campus

#### **Public Health**

- Hospital/infirmary
- Health and nutrition education
- Water or sewer utilities
- Sanitary landfill

### Federal-Aid or Public Highways

- Access ramps to interstates
- Widening of state routes

### **Port Facility**

- Intermodal transportation facility
- Cargo terminal

#### **Public Park/Recreation**

- Public golf courses
- Athletic facilities
- Nature trail
- Park, park expansion, or park access

#### **Historic Monument**

- Museum
- World War II historic park
- Other parks/buildings of historic interest

### **Power Transmission Lines**

Electric/gas lines and easements

### **Correctional Facility**

- State prison
- County jail

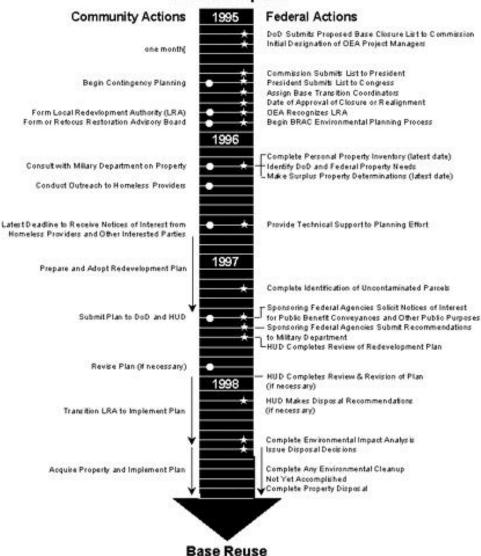
#### Wildlife Conservation

State-sponsored preserve, sanctuary, refuge, or fishery



# **Generalized Reuse Process Timeline**

#### Closure Proposal





- Build necessary linkages, networks, and systems
- Secure public and private resources
- Infrastructure improvements
  - Phasing schedule for facility and site infrastructure improvements
- Marketing
- Business expansion/creation
- Job training/retraining programs



# New Tools for Base Redevelopment – Legislative Provisions

## **Legislative Provisions**

- Economic development conveyances
- Leaseback
- Authority to transfer before remediation

# **Policy**

- Leasing
  - Longer term interim leases
  - Reaffirmation of longterm leasing authority

## Redevelopment Act Process Modifications

- Clarifies DoD's obligation under NEPA
  - Proposed action must encompass the LRA's plan
  - DoD must give deference to LRA's plan in making disposal decisions



# **Keys to Success**

- Proper organization
- Leadership commitment
  - Public and private sector
  - ➤ Shared local, state and Federal Support
- Comprehensive strategy
  - Develop community vision
  - ➤ Short and long range plans
  - ➤ Focus on job creation and economic stability

- Consensus
  - Community wide focus
- Integrate with ongoing economic development structure
- Realistic marketing
  - Market driven actions
- Early and continued dialogue with military department and BCT